

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /056 W

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R 211539Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2270

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

CONFIDENTIAL WARSAW 6974

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PL

SUBJECT: GIEREK HOLDS FIRST QUASI-PRESS CONFERENCE1. FIRST SECRETARY

GIEREK HELD A TWO-HOUR SESSION WITH

"NATIONAL" MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES NOVEMBER 20 AT THE CENTRAL  
COMMITTEE BUILDING, THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF "REGULAR,  
PERIODIC MEETINGS" WITH POLISH NEWSMEN, ACCORDING TO THE  
PRESS. DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSION WERE NOT REPORTED EITHER  
IN THE ACCOUNTS CARRIED IN THE EVENING NEWS BROADCASTS OR  
ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE NEXT DAY'S NEWSPAPERS. HOWEVER, THE  
LIST OF TOPICS COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF DOMESTIC AND INTER-  
NATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING THE EFFECTS OF THE WESTERN ECONOMIC  
"CRISIS" ON POLAND, CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS, THE FURTHER  
DEVELOPMENT OF "SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY," YOUTH ACTIVITIES, THE  
ROLE OF THE MEDIA AND "PRESS CRITICISM" IN IMPLEMENTING THE  
SIXTH CONGRESS PROGRAM, AND POLAND'S "GROWING ROLE" IN  
FOREIGN POLICY.

2. A POLISH JOURNALIST INFORMED US NOVEMBER 21 THAT GIEREK  
FIRST ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO CONDUCT SUCH A MEETING ABOUT  
TWO WEEKS AGO. ALTHOUGH GIEREK THEN STIPULATED THAT HE  
WANTED TO MEET PRIMARILY WITH REGULAR CORRESPONDENTS, IT  
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TURNED OUT THAT THE BULK OF THE 150 PERSONS PARTICIPATING

REPRESENTED THE EDITORIAL ESTABLISHMENT INSTEAD. QUESTIONS WERE PREPARED IN WRITING AND WERE SIGNED. PERHAPS HALF WERE SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE, WITH THE REMAINDER COMING FROM THE FLOOR DURING THE DISCUSSION. CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY JERZY LUKASZEWCZ, WHO CHAIRED THE MEETING, CONTROLLED THE QUESTIONING, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE. GENERALLY, THE SOURCES SAID, HIS COLLEAGUES DESCRIBED THIS INNOVATION AS "BETTER THAN NOTHING."

3. COMMENT: THE LOCAL AP OFFICE CONFIRMED THAT NO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WERE INVITED AND INDICATED IT MIGHT TRY FOR AN INVITATION TO GIerek's next press conference. A POLISH JOURNALIST WHO HAD COVERED GIerek's trip to the United States told us several weeks ago that the first secretary had been much impressed by the American-style press conference and that the general satisfaction with his own public performance in the U.S. had encouraged him to introduce something similar following his return. Although publication of the interchange at this conference has been severely limited, the mere fact that such a meeting was arranged, with the promise of more to come, represents an interesting innovation in this part of the world.

DAVIES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** GIerek holds first quasi-press conference1. First Secretary GIEREK held a two-hour session with  
**TAGS:** PINT, PL, (GIEREK)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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